

## AMENDMENTS

### IN THE SPECIFICATION:

• Please change the title of the specification to: -- Methods Of Operating A Food Waste Disposer Having a Variable Speed Motor --

• Please amend specification paragraph starting at page 2, line 5, as follows:

-- This application is a divisional application of Application No. 09/777,129, filed February 5, 2001, to which priority is claimed pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 120. Application 09/777,129 in turn claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/253,481 filed on November 28, 2000[.] Both of these prior applications [which is] are incorporated by reference in [its] their entirety and priority is claimed to each. This application is related to Application Serial No. [ ] 09/777,126 entitled "Switched Reluctance Machine and Food Waste Disposer Employing Switched Reluctance Machine" by Strutz, filed concurrently herewith, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. --

• Please amend specification paragraph starting at page 11, line 28, as follows:

-- The lower lug support plate 124 may be formed from a flat strip or sheet of metal that is stamped into shape. Like the upper rotating plate 122, the lower lug support plate 124 may also be formed by powdered metal methods, by injection molding methods such as insert plastic injection molding or metal injection molding, or by casting methods such as die-casting or investment casting. The lower lug support plate 124 preferably may have a thickness ranging

from about 0.090 inch to about 0.190 inch [think] thick. In a preferred embodiment, the lower lug support plate 124 is composed of stainless steel and has a thickness of about 0.125 inch thick. If stamping methods are used, the shredder lugs 142 and tumbling spikes 144 may be formed by folding portions of the stamped metal upward. In this way, the shredder lugs 142 and tumbling spikes 144 are an integral part of the lower lug support plate 124. After forming the shredder lugs 142 and the tumbling spikes 144, the lug support plate 124 is preferably heat treated by methods known by those skilled in the art. Other types of suitable fixed lug designs are disclosed in Patent Application Serial No. 09/524,853 (filed 3/14/00), entitled "Grinding Mechanism For A Food Waste Disposer And Method Of Making The Grinding Mechanism," by Scott W. Anderson, et al., which is owned by the assignee of the present application and incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. -

**• Please amend specification paragraph starting at page 13, line 6, as follows:**

-- The upper end bell 164 is used to separate the central grinding section 104 and the variable speed motor section 106. The variable speed motor section 106 is housed inside a housing 174 and a lower end frame 176. The housing 174 may be formed from sheet metal and the lower end frame 176 may be formed from stamped metal. The housing 174 and lower end frame 176 are attached to the upper end bell 164 by screws or bolts 178. -

**• Please amend specification paragraph starting at page 13, line 11, as follows:**

-- It has been found, through the present invention, that many of the problems of the prior art may be overcome by using a variable speed motor. One suitable variable speed motor is a switched reluctance machine that may be obtained from Emerson Appliance Motors in St. Louis.

An example of a switched reluctance machine and a suitable control for a switched reluctance machine is further described in U.S. Patent Nos. 6,014,003 and 6,051,942, which are owned by the assignee of the present invention and incorporated herein by reference in their entirety. Another suitable type of switched reluctance machine is disclosed in Application Serial No. [ ] 09/777,126 entitled "Switched Reluctance Machine and Food Waste Disposer Employing Switched Reluctance Machine" by Strutz, filed concurrently herewith and owned by the assignee of the present invention, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. The present invention may also include other motors that are modified for variable speed by adding a controller. Such motors may include universal motors, permanent magnet motors or induction motors.--

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